



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
10TH MEDICAL GROUP
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY COLORADO**

1 January 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR ULTRASOUND AND MAMMOGRAPHY PATIENTS

FROM: 10 MDSS/SGSAR

SUBJECT: Policy Regarding Children in Ultrasound/Mammography Section

1. In our department, children under the age of 12 years who are not being examined are not allowed in the ultrasound suite nor in the adjacent waiting area.
2. Reasons why children are not permitted to be present:
 - a. Young children are often hosts of a variety of minor illnesses. Many of our patients are getting a prenatal ultrasound and it is desirable to protect expectant mothers from exposure to illness.
 - b. Our clinic contains equipment and supplies that may be harmful/toxic to small children.
 - c. There is limited seating capacity in the waiting area for patients awaiting preliminary results. Some of these results may be adverse; reducing the number of people in our waiting area ensures the utmost discretion and confidentiality.
 - d. The presence of children leaves our patients without seating and is potentially dangerous when children play within the only aisle of egress.
 - e. Children in the ultrasound room can distract the ultrasonographers resulting in a poorer quality examination. Patients will not be available to watch their children during the exam and our clinic does not have the additional personnel to provide childcare.
3. It is for these reasons children cannot be permitted in the waiting area nor in the ultrasound examination room.

Donald M. Meduna, Col, USAF, MC, FS
Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services Flight Commander